

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method and system to provide secure in-band management for a packet data network are disclosed. In a network device for configuring a virtual private network (VPN), management traffic is received over the VPN. The network device is managed 5 using the management traffic received over the VPN. An in-band management system is created by configuring a virtual private network (VPN) for a network device and linking the VPN to a management device or a management function. By using the VPN to carry management traffic and to create the in-band management system, management of the network device can be made secure.